

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/712,731

Examiner

Darren W. Ark

Applicant(s)

DICK, LYNDON SHAWN

Art Unit

3643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

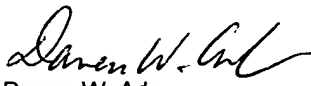
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Telephone Interview 9/22/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Darren W. Ark
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3643

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edward M. Livingston on Wednesday, September 22, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Abstract:

Line 1, replaced "pig-tail" with --spiral--.

Line 2, replaced "movable" with --slidable--.

Specification:

Amend the paragraph beginning on Page 5, line 1 as follows:

Referring to **FIG. 1**, the dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve has a rod **1** of a predetermined length, preferably made of steel, that is attached to a handle **3** at a first end such that an axis of the handle is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the rod and has a ~~pig-tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end **2** at a second end. The rod **1** is

Art Unit: 3643

surrounded by a movable cylindrical bite sleeve 4, preferably made of plastic, that is freely slidable along the length of the rod 1 such that the sleeve is capable of both abutting a surface of the handle 3 when the sleeve is positioned at the first end of the rod and abutting the spiral looped hook removal end 2 when the sleeve is positioned at the second end of the rod. The ~~pig-tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end 2 of the rod 1 has a rounded end 5 so as not to injure the insides of the fish or sea creature.

Amend the paragraph beginning after Page 6, line 11 as follows:

The advantage of using a ~~pig-tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end 2 is that it allows for greater security of a fishing line 8 over traditional hooks having a C-shape, U-shape or other rounded shapes wherein a portion of the hook is open.

Claims:

Claim 1. A dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve comprising:

a rod having a predetermined length;

a handle having an axis that is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said rod and ~~attachable~~ which is attached to one end of said rod;

a ~~pig-tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end at the opposite end of the rod from the handle; and

a moveable slidable bite sleeve surrounding the rod and being freely slidable along the length of the rod such that said sleeve is capable of both abutting a surface of

Art Unit: 3643

said handle when said sleeve is positioned at the one end of said rod and abutting said spiral looped hook removal end when said sleeve is positioned at the opposite end of the rod.

Claim 2, line 2, replaced "pig-tail" with --spiral--.

Claim 2, line 3, replaced "pig-tail" with --spiral--.

Claim 3, line 3, replaced "movable" with --slidable--.

Claim 3, line 4, replaced "movable" with --slidable--.

Claim 3, line 5, replaced "movable" with --slidable--.

Claim 3, line 6, replaced "movable" with --slidable--.

Claim 6. A method for using a dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve consisting of a rod having a predetermined length; a handle having an axis that is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said rod and attachable being attached to one end of said rod; a ~~pig-tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end at a second end of the rod opposite the handle; and a ~~movable~~ slidable bite sleeve surrounding the rod and being freely slidable along the length of the rod such that said sleeve is capable of abutting either a surface of said handle or said spiral looped hook removal end, comprising the steps of:

- a. holding the ~~movable~~ slidable bite sleeve close to the handle;
- b. placing the device on a fishing line leader at a 90 degree angle with the ~~pig-tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end facing upwards;

Art Unit: 3643

- c. pulling the handle towards a user while maintaining leader tension until the ~~pig tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end engages the fishing line leader;
- d. turning the handle $\frac{1}{4}$ turn clockwise so the leader is in ~~the~~ a center of the ~~pig tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end;
- e. releasing the ~~movable~~ slidable bite sleeve so it falls to ~~the bottom~~ the second end of the rod;
- f. inserting the ~~pig tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end into a mouth of an animal;
- g. inserting the ~~movable~~ slidable bite sleeve into the mouth of an animal;
- h. sliding the rod further into the animal, following the leader;
- i. giving a sharp jab downward on the handle when the ~~pig tail~~ spiral looped hook removal end is resting on an ingested hook;
- j. pulling the rod out of the animal until it stops at the ~~movable~~ slidable bite sleeve; and
- k. removing the entire device from the animal when the animal opens its mouth.

Art Unit: 3643

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Darren W. Ark whose telephone number is (703) 305-3733. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 8:00am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter M. Poon can be reached on (703) 308-2574. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Darren W. Ark
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3643

DWA